

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1-12. (cancelled)

13. (currently amended) The breathable backsheet according to claim [[12]] 24, wherein the hydrophobic distance element comprises a ~~number~~ plurality of hydrophobic particles.

14. (currently amended) The breathable backsheet according to claim [[12]] 24, wherein the hydrophobic distance element comprises a three dimensional hydrophobic distance layer.

15. (currently amended) The breathable backsheet according to claim [[11]] 24, wherein the first layer has a three dimensional form with raised portions and depressions therebetween, so that the raised portions of the first ~~layers~~ layer are in contact with the second layer, ~~and wherein~~ the raised portions of the first layer are arranged to have the function of the hydrophobic distance elements and ~~where~~ the condensation zone is created in the space between the depressions of the first and second layers.

16. (currently amended) The breathable backsheet according to claim [[15]] 24, wherein the second layer has a three dimensional form with raised portions and depressions therebetween, so that the raised portions of the first and second layers are in contact in several points, ~~wherein~~ the raised portions of the first ~~layer~~ and second layers are arranged to have the function of the hydrophobic distance elements and ~~where~~ the condensation zone is created in the space between the depressions of the first and second layer.

17-19. (cancelled)

20. (currently amended) The breathable backsheet according claim [[11]] 24, wherein the features of the backsheet are valid in an environment where the outside of the backsheet is uncovered and exposed to a room temperature of about 20°C.

21-23. (cancelled)

24. (new) A breathable backsheet for an absorbent article, the backsheet comprising:

a first layer adjacent to an absorbent body arranged in the absorbent article to face toward the user during use, said first layer being water vapor permeable and liquid impermeable;

a second layer adjacent the first layer, said second layer being water vapor permeable and liquid impermeable;

a condensation zone between the first layer and the second layer; and

a hydrophobic distance element placed in the condensation zone creating a space between the first layer and the second layer, wherein,

the backsheet is water vapor permeable in a Z-direction from the absorbent body to the outside of the backsheet,

the first layer is adapted to allow a first amount of mass flow water vapor (m_1) to pass through the first layer in the Z-direction, the second layer is adapted to allow a second amount of mass flow water vapor (m_2) to pass through the second layer in the Z-direction, m_2 is less than or equal to m_1 , m_1 is a maximum 10,000 g/(m²·24 hours) and m_2 is a maximum 2700g/(m²·24 hours) when the outside air has a relative humidity of about 90% and a temperature of about 23°C,

the condensation zone comprises an open volume between the first layer and the second layer and the minimum distance between the first layer and the second layer is 0.1 mm,

the hydrophobic distance element is arranged to condense water vapor within the condensation zone, and

the condensation zone is adapted to temporarily condense and store an amount of water vapor ($t \cdot m_c$), where m_c is the difference between m_1 and m_2 , and t is the time period during

which the condensed water vapor m_c is stored, m_2 is less than a maximum amount of mass flow water vapor (m_x) allowed to pass through the second layer without forming any condensation of water vapor on the outside of the backsheet.

25. (new) The breathable backsheet according to claim 24, wherein the hydrophobic distance element is in the form of a three dimensional net.

26. (new) The breathable backsheet according to claim 24, wherein the hydrophobic distance element is in the form of a layer comprising topographical features with raised portions and depressions on a first side of the distance layer and corresponding depressions and raised portions on a second side of the distance layer.

27. (new) The breathable backsheet according to claim 26, wherein the raised portions on the first side of the distance layer are in contact with the first layer, the raised portions of the second side of the distance layer are in contact with the second layer, and the raised portions create a distance between the first layer and the second layer such that the space between the depressions and the layers create the condensation zone.

28. (new) The breathable backsheet according to claim 24, wherein the hydrophobic distance element comprises a plurality of hydrophobic particles in contact with the first layer and in contact with the second layer.